

# THE GREAT CONTEST.

FROM GEN. GRANT'S ARMY.

No Heavy Fight Since Saturday.

SKIRMISHING ALL ALONG OUR LINES.

Rebels Trying to Obstruct the River.

THEY ARE PROMPTLY SHELLED OFF.

GEN. SHERIDAN AT WHITE HOUSE.

GEN. HUNTER AT LYNCHBURG.

REBELS SAY HE WAS REPULSED.

THE MOSBY RAID A FICTION.

LATER FROM SHERMAN.

He Has Gained Important Positions.

Our Correspondence from Sherman's Army.

WAR DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL DISPATCHES.

Secretary Stanton to Gen. Dix—News to

Wednesday Afternoon—No Fighting

Yesterday—Hunter at Lynchburg—The

Rebels say he was repulsed—Later

from Sherman—Important Positions

Gained—Heavy Fighting.

WAR DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, June 22—10 p. m.

To Major-Gen. Dix: Dispatches from City Point at

4 o'clock this evening, report no fighting to-day.

Movements are in progress which are not now proper

for publication.

The Richmond papers report an attack upon Lynch-

burg by Gen. Hunter on Saturday, and that he was

repulsed. It is believed, however, that there was

nothing more than a reconnaissance, and that, having

ascertained the place to be strongly defended, Gen.

Hunter withdrew, and is operating upon the enemy's

communications at other points.

A dispatch from Gen. Sherman's headquarters, dated

yesterday at 4 o'clock, states that "it has rained al-

most incessantly, in spite of which our lines have been

pressed forward steadily, and an important position has

been gained by Gen. Howard."

The enemy made a desperate attempt to retake this

position last night, making seven distinct assaults on

Gen. Whitaker's division of Stanley's division, and

losing not less than seven or eight hundred men.

Two hundred killed were left on Whitaker's front.

The assault was followed by a heavy fire of artillery,

under which the position was fortified, and is now safe.

Our cavalry is across Noonday Creek, on our left,

and one brigade of the 23d Corps is across Moses Creek

on the right; but the Rebel left is behind a swamp, and

the rains prevent any advance.

The fighting has been quite severe at all points, the

enemy resisting stubbornly, and attempting the defensive

whenever he can.

Gen. Sigel reports from Martinsburg to-day:

"There is no truth in the statement of *The Philadel-*

*phia Inquirer* of the 21st in relation to a raid of Mosby.

Winchester is not occupied by the enemy, nor are the

telegraph wires cut between this place and Harper's

Ferry."

No military intelligence from any other quarter has

been received to-day by the Department.

EDWIN M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

SPECIAL DISPATCHES OF THE NEW-YORK TRIBUNE.

Sharpshooters on Sunday and Monday—

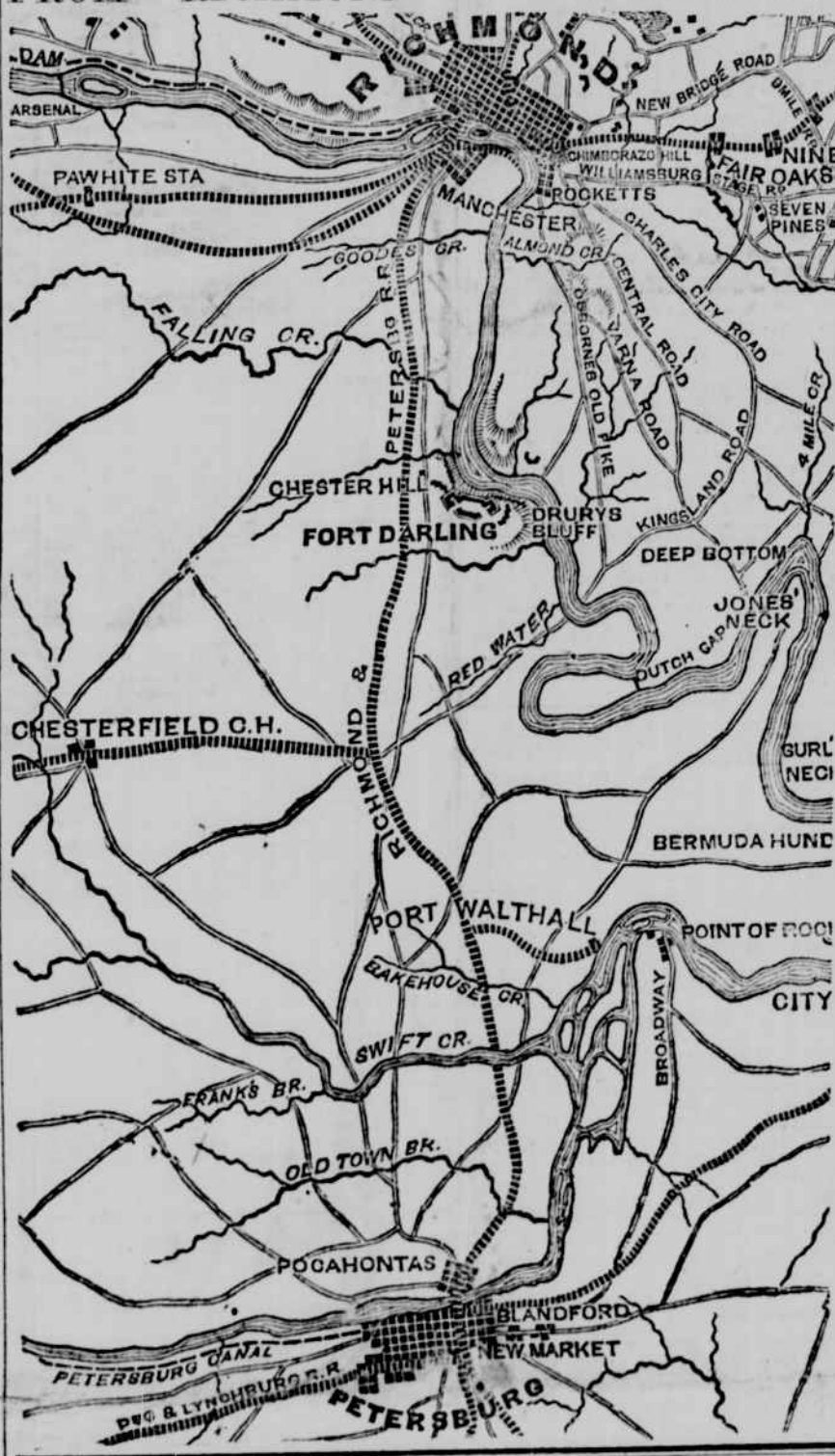
# New-York Tribune.

VOL. XXIV.....No. 7,244.

NEW-YORK, THURSDAY, JUNE 23, 1864.

PRICE THREE CENTS.

## FROM RICHMOND TO PETERSBURG.



### ASSOCIATED PRESS AND OTHER ACCOUNTS.

#### Skirmishing on Monday—No Change of

#### Position—The Enemy Fortifying, and

#### will probably Hold Petersburg to the

#### Last—Our Wounded—Released Union

#### Officers.

HEADQUARTERS, Tuesday, June 21—5 a. m.

Some skirmishing took place along the line

yesterday and last evening, but no change of position

has been made by either party during the past two days.

The enemy are busy throwing up works at different

points, and although our lines reach within three quar-

ters of a mile of the city, they seem determined to hold

it to the last.

The hospitals have nearly all been sent to City Point,

where they are arranged for them.

Col. Tipton, of the 6th Pa. Regt., who was lately

released from captivity in Richmond, arrived here on

Sunday, and will assume command of his regiment.

Lieut.-Col. Nepper, of the 5th Pa. Regt., also arrived a

day or two since, having been taken prisoner at Gettys-

burg, and lately exchanged, and assumed command of

his regiment.

#### Skirmishing Going On All Along the

#### Line—Rebel Attempt to Throw Up

#### Earthworks on the James—They are

#### Shelled by our Gunboats—Sheridan at

#### the White House.

BERMUDA HUND, June 21—10 a. m.

There has been no general engagement since

my last report.

Skirmishing has been going on all along the line.

The Rebels have made several efforts to throw up

earthworks near the James River, in the vicinity of

Turkey Bend and Malvern Hill, but have been as often

shelled out by our gunboats.

Supplies have been sent to the White House to-day

by Gen. Sheridan, his command having arrived in that

vicinity.

#### GEN. HUNTER'S CAMPAIGN.

#### The Entry into Staunton—How the Rebel

#### Stores were Discovered—The Lunatic

#### Asylum and its Secrets—Destroying the

#### Railroad—A Factory Broken up by the

#### Women.

From Our Special Correspondent.

STAUNTON, June 19, 1864.

Having ascertained that my letter of June

the disclosures which his loyal servants might make,

having in vain coaxed and begged of them to return

inside the building, away from "the brutal eyes of the

Yankees," he proceeded to threaten them with the

cells if they did not immediately comply with his com-

mands.

It was at this juncture that your correspondent ar-

rived; and on the facts being made known to him, he

immediately informed them that although heretofore

slaves they were now free, and at liberty to either go

or stay, just as they pleased.

This announcement was received with great joy.

"They know'd when de Yankees com'd dey all be free,"

was the general exclamation as they pressed close up

and around to whisper the information, giving exact

places in the cellars and garrets of the Asylum where

the Government cloth and bank funds were hid away.

After getting a guard for their protection, your cor-

respondent went to Gen. Hunter's headquarters and

informed him of the discovery.

The Provost-Marshal, Major Harkins, was ordered

to search the place thoroughly, which he did, and dis-

covered Government property to the value of \$300,000,

consisting principally of Rebel uniforms ready made,

and cloth of the army pattern, which had been secreted

the evening previous, when they learned of their defeat

at Piedmont and of our onward march to Staunton.

On the opposite side of the road and not far distant

from the Lunatic Asylum is a large building, formerly

known as the Blind Asylum, but latterly

pressed into the Confederate service for use

as a government hospital. Here we found

417 patients and 8 surgeons, who were duly paroled by

Capt. Bier, A. A. G. The hospital is kept in excellent

order, and the patients seem to have everything which

can either promote their recovery or alleviate their suf-

ferings. The patients were principally from Lee's

Army, and spoke quite hopefully of their cause, not

withstanding their recent defeat.

Staunton was once famous for its female seminaries,

but the tide of war which is rolling over the land has

even reached the fountains of education; and to-day,

out of four large and flourishing schools, but one re-

mains, and that is but indifferently patronized. Parents

are afraid to send their children away from home.

The railroad buildings at Staunton were very ex-

tensive, and contained a considerable amount of stores,

which, in their hurry to escape, they left unguarded for

our use.

We captured a large quantity of butter and eggs,

together with commissary stores, which were served

out to the men of the command.

We rested in Staunton until the morning of the 7th

when the work of destroying the railroad and Govern-

ment factories was commenced.

Detachments were sent out, up and down the track,

to tear up and destroy the rails and trestle work, and

blow up the culverts, while others set fire to the rail-

road buildings and Government factories which con-

tained a vast amount of valuable machinery.

The inhabitants now became terribly alarmed and

expected we were going to burn up the whole town.

About this time your correspondent was

standing close to Gen. Hunter witnessing the destruc-

tion of the railroad property, when a lady approached

the General, and with tears in her eyes informed him

that her home, with several others, which were con-

structed of wood, was joined close to the Confederate

Boot and Shoe Factory, and our men were about to

burn it, and unless he (Gen. Hunter) interfered, the

property of "innocent people" would be destroyed, and

a great many families rendered homeless. Gen. Hunter

gave orders to destroy the machinery, but prevent the

buildings from being burned, if it jeopardized the pri-

vate property in the vicinity. On arriving at the

factory, your correspondent was met by an ex-

cited crowd of women, who eagerly inquired if the

factory was to be burned. They were informed that, if

all the property in the factory was destroyed and broken

up so as to be useless, the building would be saved.

It was a sight never to be forgotten, to see those

women, some running for their friends and relatives to

assist, while others immediately engaged in the task of

breaking the machinery with hammers and axes, in less

than an hour the factory, with its machinery, was com-

pletely broken and destroyed.

The value of the property destroyed at Staunton has

been variously estimated at from three to seven millions,

probably five millions would be as correct an estimate

possession in front of his position—the result of which

proves that the reported crossing of the Chattahoochee

by the Rebel army was premature. His division, with

artillery and a brigade of cavalry, and marched early

in the morning, taking the road running from Allatoona

Church to Marietta. At the intersection of the Skir-

Spring and Aeworth roads he met the enemy's army.

The Rebels posted in a dense wood in a gorge. From the

nature of the ground and the dense undergrowth, little

use could be made of the cavalry, and they were posted

on the flanks of the troops which were to deploy to the

right and left. The 23d Michigan, Col. Spaulding,

both Indiana, Major Tucker, and the 11th Ohio, Lieut.

Col. Sherwood, were thrown forward as skirmishers,

the enemy gradually retreating upon a line of woods

which he had constructed in the edge of the woods

around an open field from half to three quarters of a

mile in width.

Col. Bond, commanding the 2d Brigade, brought up

the troops on the left, and Col. Strickland, occupied the

right with the 1st Corps, Corp. C. A. Richardson, Col. H.

23d Mich., had his left arm extended early in the fight,

and, as the Rebels retreated, he was standing up at

whiskers of Col. Spaulding, and the enemy's sharp-

shooters were firing at him. Blood was standing up at

the time, and the Rebels were retreating. Several others were

handed during the first hour, and the enemy had several

handed by our men. Among the rest, an officer was

handed, but he escaped, leaving his sword and his

saddle and bridle in the hands of the 23d Michigan.

Gen. Hascall then ordered up the 6th Michigan bat-

tery, which shelled the enemy's works toward the left

about half an hour, the Rebels retreating from behind

their rifle pits on the right, and the enemy's sharp-

shooters were firing at him. Blood was standing up at

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